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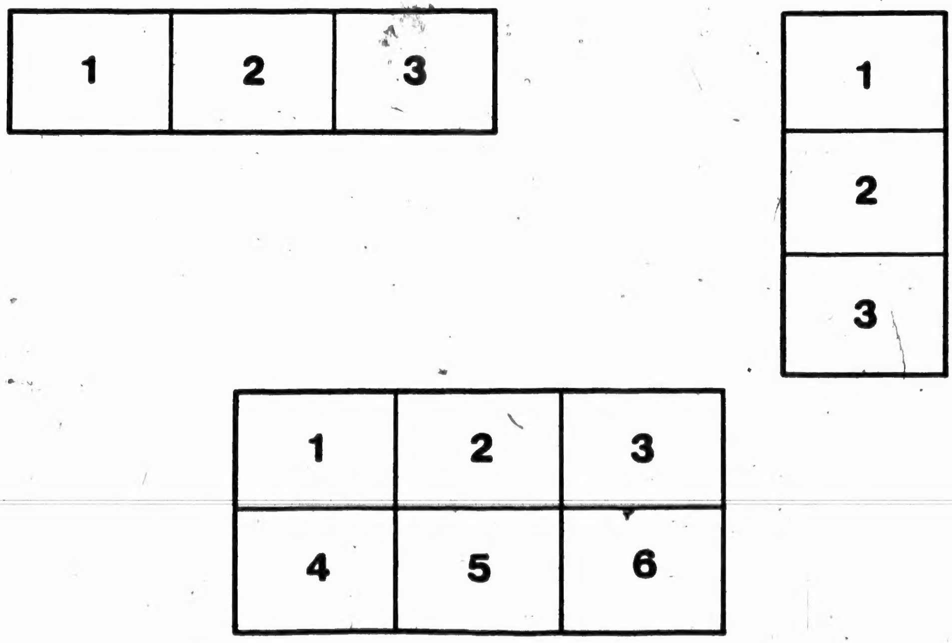

SHERBROOKE, June 23, 1834.

REVD. SIR,

The following memorial to Mr STANLEY, has been prepared for the signatures of the Clergy of this Diocese. And as it is desirable that there should be no needless delay, in the transmission of this memorial, I beg you to inform the Archdeacon of Quebec, whether you will authorise him to attach your name to it. Make your letter single, and direct it to "the Venerable, the Archdeacon of Quebec, Civil Secretary's Office, Quebec."

Your faithful Servant,

C. J. QUEBEC.

To the Right Honorable E. G. STANLEY, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c. &c. &c.

The memorial of the undersigned, Ministers of the Church of England in the Canadas, and Missionaries of the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, Most respectfully sheweth:

That towards the close of the month of September last, your memorialists received from the Lord Bishop of Quebec a Circular bearing the date of the 1st of July, 1833, signed by the Secretary of the Society above mentioned, in which Circular his Lordship was requested to inform your memorialists, that from and after the date of the said letter, the salaries paid to them up to that date, should undergo a reduction of thirty per cent., and that a farther diminution should periodically take place until July, 1835, at which time their salaries are to be reduced to one half of the amount originally stipulated:

That although in the Province of Upper Canada arrangements have been made for paying from the Clergy Reserves, which are now available therein to that extent, the sum of £100 yearly to such of your memorialists as are resident within that Province, their allowance from the Society is to be altogether withdrawn, leaving them upon the same reduced footing with their brethren in the Lower Province:

[illegible]his reduction is the consequence of the diminution already effected, and the cessation which is ab[illegible] take place of the Parliamentary Grant heretofore made annually in aid of the designs of that Venerable Society:

That from the whole tenor of the proceedings of Government since the conquest of the Country; from the allotment of lands under the 31st Geo. III. c. 31st for the endowment of Rectories or Parsonages according to the establishment of the Church of England, which may be expected ultimately to afford a considerable revenue; from the erection of the Provinces into a Diocese, and the appoinment of a Bishop in 1793; from the reservation to itself on the part of the Crown, of the presentation to ecclesiastical Preferments; from the establishment of a Cathedral Church at Quebec, the formation of Archdeaconries and Parishes, and the constitution of Corporations of the Clergy of the Church of England in each Province for the management of the Reserves, the impression was created and maintained of an intention on the part of His Majesty's Government to provide in a permanent manner for the institutions of the Church of England thus formed within the country, and the Society and its Missionaries were induced to enter mutually into engagements from which they must have abstained, if they could have anticipated the failure of the expectations so raised:

That in the faith of continued countenance, and support from His Majesty's Government, the Bishops of Quebec, in concert with the Society, have from time to time, done their utmost to provide for the progressive demands of a still increasing population of the Church of England, (which of late years has received vast accessions from the influx of emigration,) by promoting the erection of Churches, and the formation of Missions, and by encouraging respectable and zealous Clergymen to forego their views and expectations at home, and to remove themselves and their families to Canada:

That your memorialists entered accordingly upon the charges respectively assigned to them, with a full conviction that their services were engaged for life, at the stipulated salary which was then allotted to them and specified upon the face of the forms which gave them authority to execute their sacred office:

That the removal of many of your memorialists from their own country was attended with sacrifices, which they will not now regret, because they trust that their ministry has not been wholly without fruit in the field where they have been called to labour by the Providence of God; but of the extent of which sacrifices, as now made to appear, they were totally unaware at the time, and which, had such an issue been foreseen, it would have been regarded, with reference to worldly interests, as the very height of imprudence to make:

That your memorialists, in most instances, found their emoluments, even before they were diminished by one half, to be no more than sufficient, with the strictest economy and management, to afford them a suitable maintenance according to their station in society, and to meet these demands arising from their relation to their people, especially in a climate where the severity of the winter imposes additional expenses upon themselves, and causes additional hardship to the poor; that even then they saw themselves surrounded, although they saw it without repining, by many in other professions or pursuits, who with similar original prospects and pretensions in life, and with a much less expensive education, had risen to far ampler means of providing for their families; but that with the slender allowance now assigned to them, they feel their respectability to be lowered, and their usefulness abridged; their credit impaired in quarters from which they were in the habit of receiving their supplies, and the field of their exertions necessarily narrowed on account of expenses attending their circuits of duty:

That other circumstances, which it might be considered a needless minuteness to particularize, have in different parts of the Diocese, deprived many of your memorialists of certain small emoluments, which constituted an addition to their incomes, and have thus conspired with the reduction which the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel have felt themselves necessitated to make, to bring them into a situation of positive and severe embarrassment and distress; so that humiliating examples might be here produced of their inability to meet their engagements, contracted under no apprehension of so adverse a change, or of their want of means to retain a single servant, male or female, in the family, to perform the menial offices of the house:

That it is impossible, under the circumstances of this country, to remedy the evils here represented, unless to a very inconsiderable extent, by means of the voluntary contributions of the people ([redacted] at [redacted] best, apt to create an objectionable kind of dependence,) however well affected towards the Church or personally towards their ministers, not only because the congregations have been long habituated to consider the main support of their Clergy as a thing provided for from other and permanent sources, but because [redacted] in the great majority of settlements, *may* are actually unable, from the scarcity of money and the struggles which they are making to establish their own families, to provide what is necessary [redacted] for such a purpose, *themselves*:

That therefore your memorialists most respectfully pray that you would be pleased to take the hardship of their case into your most serious and favorable consideration; and to devise such means, [redacted], as to your wisdom shall suggest themselves, not only for their personal relief,# but for the preservation of those high interests of which they are in charge, and which must unavoidably suffer if the present depressed condition of the Clergy should continue:

#from any funds which may be at the disposal of Government,

That with reference particularly to this last object, which far transcends the other in their estimation, your memorialists cannot forbear from taking this opportunity most respectfully but most earnestly to represent the importance of directing endowments to be made every where from the Clergy-Reserves with the smallest possible delay, in order that matters may at length be put in train for making a permanent and suitable provision for the Church, and that the many evils may be remedied which arise from the precarious and unsettled condition of her establishment in the country.

And your memorialists as in duty bound, &c. &c.